

Philip Carpenter  
P. P. Albany -  
Associate & Cause

May 1859

Weymouth May 25<sup>th</sup> 1859

My dear Mary,

After the longest  
Coldest Spring possible to imagine,  
with rain ad infinitum, at length  
again, the Sun! - I take the pleas-  
ant shine of it into my heart, that  
my good wishes may come to you  
with healing. For, not hearing  
from you, I am anxious  
about your health: yet do  
not imagine me as willing  
to hear from you at the  
cost to yourself of the labour  
of a letter, when you feel un-  
fit for it. We have every thing



to rejoice over at this moment  
for the Cause. The slave-trade  
with the Coast of Africa is out!  
— Murrah! — (as the the young  
Doctor cried, Murrah, when he  
compelled the abscess in the  
System Somewhere, to break on  
the outside. Now people began  
to believe; & pro slavery Northern  
D. D. s to talk of "this dreadful undo-  
ing of the work of the Sainted Wreper-  
free & Clarkson!" & the Common  
Political papers get subscribers by  
saying "what's the real difference  
between the Foreign & domestic  
Slave trades? we don't see any."  
We are no longer young, — we  
are somewhat worn — 'Scathed  
by battle-fires we stand' —  
but — "God be thanked, our



Hence, when Freedom is inevi-  
 table, & easy to get comparatively  
 because in the nature of things,  
 (what are our fingers & toes!)  
 Suppose they do get pinched? - they  
 were made to be used, & if we care  
 for what we are working for,  
 we shall mind them being  
used up. ) these creatures &  
 products of Slavery are in a  
 sad taking, with their tract-  
 Bulwarks - their morion - bul-  
 warks. - their church & State  
 Bulwarks - all out of right  
 line - the Headlong fall of all  
 this structure of the tyrants'  
 throne. Would you not think  
 I was on a platform  
 myself, by the American



amount of smiles I  
have fathered as I go? -  
But I like my metaphors  
so: - well mixed.

Now the time your  
dear Father founded the  
Advocate for, has come.  
It can advise, direct, & by  
its wisdom, control, those  
well meaning rare Lees  
troops. Horner thinks they  
had better have all the Dag-  
lish money - contributions, &  
clasp Whipple on the back  
& subscribe for the Liberator.  
If ten thousand Englishmen  
would do the same, it would



May, in my love & estima-  
 tion of the man, I think  
 his sayings & doings, when  
 they are said & done among  
 his own orthodox devils - of  
 Logicians - making the worse  
 the better reason, & <sup>on his</sup> own deserv-  
 edly as an individual, not at-  
 tempting to make Garrison &  
 the Am. Soc. answerable for  
 them may be providentially  
 used for great good. I am not  
 nice in instruments, but this  
 hammer is not true enough  
 for my hand. You have tried  
 to drive a nail with an ill  
 balanced one? - you can't hit  
 it. Or did you never attempt  
 such a thing? Oh, the boxes  
 I have nailed up, to save



Carpenterage, & Portage.

What reminds me to say  
that Philip Carpenter  
passed yesterday <sup>no - two days before</sup> with us.  
H. C. Wright was with him  
who consumed the time in urging  
P. not to go to the South. "For, Philip"  
(you remember how H. C. W. speaks -  
his mouth nearly shut, & in a  
weighty monotonous tone) - "I'd rather  
see ye strung up to a tree there,  
than come home morally  
broken down, & paying compliments  
to the Slaveholder, who will  
hospitably entertain ye, for the chance  
to beat ye down." Which was all  
true, & profitable as suggestion,  
only Wright had taken <sup>up</sup> General



says before in saying the  
same thing. At length when  
Wright's back was turned, Phelps  
expressed wonder to me at  
Wright's harping on this thing.  
"I am not found among  
of slaveholders, he said, but  
among the poor whites  
& the shells & insects. What  
does he mean?" I thought  
your father would have ap-  
proved of me. For I said, shaking  
up my resolution with both  
hands — "pardon me — indeed I  
hardly can pardon myself for  
making so unkind an obser-  
vation to your father — to my own.  
But the explanation of it is, that  
he is thinking of your brother Pur-  
sell, who avoided the abolition



ists & apologized for & fraternized  
with the Slaveholders." Philip  
took it well. Was true his brother  
& true to the Cause. Praised  
him as a man & a brother,  
acknowledged his short-coming  
as touching Slavery in this country.

This I confide to you alone  
& Mr. Webb, <sup>if you like to tell him</sup> as it was a sort  
of Confidence <sup>seemingly</sup> — though I dare  
say it was what Philip always  
says to every body.

My son Henry is to be married  
on the 23<sup>d</sup> June, to Miss Jay  
of New York: She is a beautiful  
girl & from her portrait sent  
me, I think I shall fall in  
love with her myself.

Yours affectionall  
friend  
A. M. Chapman.



he exactly so. But the more  
persons do as you & Jones,  
do — sustain a sharp  
threatening instrument at  
home, we must plead for  
contributions yet, as need-  
ed because of the hardness  
of our countrymen's hearts.  
Why how is it that Mr  
Whipple is in the field with  
his keen dissecting knife?  
English money, the contribution  
of Thomas Sturge, enabled us to  
secure him: & once obtained  
he commends himself to all &  
Stang places. So with every  
successful move we have ever



made. England's best hearts  
charged with us! Chantry  
begins at home. - She don't  
stay there. But I must  
stop. We are all well &  
all in good cheer. I am  
somewhat troubled about Brother  
Pillsbury, who really thinks, that  
Larimer is compromising A.S. prin-  
ciple by exercising discrimination  
between things that differ. He  
has precious qualities, but fitter for  
the earlier, than the latter time.  
We must cover his mistakes  
as well as we can. They are  
exallencies as viewed in the light of  
<sup>Christianity</sup> a slaveholder's course! But what  
absurdity to call C. Sumner more  
dangerous than Mechanum, & Dr Che-  
ter than the slaveholding Dr's!



hearts are in the him.<sup>1</sup> as the excellent & always ready-  
 to-be-quoted Shakespeare says. Are you not enchanted to  
 see the advocate fairly  
 engaged, — rowing up the  
 Dr. Pomroy's & the like?  
 I only hope & pray the  
 "Young Men of Leeds" may  
 prove as faithful in the end as  
 they appear to be in the be-  
 lieving. I see they are not  
 wildly common-sens<sup>al</sup>: un-  
 used to the world — are uncivil  
 where civility would be better, —  
 have no idea of the primary  
 importance of the Am. Soc. to the  
 world's anti-slavery, even while  
 it is compelling them to act  
 with it. But they will find out.



Principles with men of leading  
Minds in them, are potent,  
& position is a great matter.  
The spot which righteous instinct  
selected at the beginning, as the  
basis of operations, is the spot  
to which every right hearted man  
finds himself drawn to. It  
is not a matter of dogma, as  
Sectarian, opinion, authority. It  
is a philosophical necessity.  
Mankind can no other; & all  
this scuffle about "platforms" &  
the like, is but the succession  
of vain attempts on the part  
of poor foolish mortals, to do  
something not fit to be done:  
not in the fitness of things.  
Freedom & plans for freedom, will  
not fit to slavery, & its Preliminaries,  
& its tools, nor to any of their plans.